

27-03-2000

CLAIMS

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a1)*
1. A hallux valgus brace comprising a three point lever means for correcting the position of the big toe, **characterised** in that the brace (1) including the three point lever means is designed to be located distally of the metatarsal joint, wherein
 - 5 the three points of the lever means are one point (A) on the medial side of the first phalanx of the big toe, one point (B) on the lateral side of the distal end of the big toe, and one point (C) on the ball of the foot.
 2. A brace according to claim 1, **characterised** in that the brace (1) comprises a proximal pad (2) pressing (A) on the first phalanx of the big toe, a
 - 10 distal pad (3) pressing (B) on the distal end of the big toe, and a lever arm (4) pressing (C) on the ball of the foot.
 3. A brace according to claim 2, **characterised** in that the distal pad (3) is adapted to press (B) on the distal end of the first phalanx of the big toe.
 4. A brace according to claim 2 or 3, **characterised** in that the distal pad (3)
 - 15 is disposed on an adjustable arm (5).
 5. A brace according to claim 4, **characterised** in that the adjustable arm (5) is secured to a sleeve (6) which is slidable and may be fixed with glue.
 6. A brace according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised** in that the brace is manufactured from steel wire and steel pads.
 - 20 7. A brace according to any one of claims 2-6, **characterised** in that the lever arm (4) is provided with a silicone tube (7).
 8. A brace according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised** in that a strap (8) is provided for fitting around the third toe.
 9. A brace according to claim 7, **characterised** in that the strap (8) is made
 - 25 of rubber or plastic or a hook and loop connection.
 10. A brace according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised** in that the distal pad (3) carries a strap (9) to be located around the big toe.

AMENDED SHEET,

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